GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:351
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
REVIVAL OF SICK JUTE MILLS
AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of poor conditions of jute mills of the country particularly of West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey/study to identify the root cause for the sickness;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for revival of these sick jute mills; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action proposed/taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the workers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR)

(a) to (e) Out of 76 jute mills in the country, as on 01.02.2002, 37 jute mills are reported sick. In West Bengal out of 59 jute mills, 31 are reported sick at present. To safeguard the interests of jute workers, on its part the Government of India, has been providing following support to the jute sector:

i) Compulsory packaging of foodgrains and sugar 100% under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987.

ii) No excise duty is levied on jute goods.

iii) Minimum Support Price operation for raw jute through Jute Corporation of India (JCI).

iv) Providing External Marketing Assistance for jute goods produced for export.

v) Development of value added diversified jute products through National Centre for Jute Diversification (NCJD).

vi) R&D support to Indian Jute Industries Research Association (IJIRA) to provide technical know how to jute industries.

As regards revival of sick jute mills in West Bengal the Government of West Bengal has been providing support to the sick units under `The West Bengal Industrial Renewal Scheme, 2001.`